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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 14 | Humidity 35% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 61,275 | Nifty 18,015 | Gold 56,147 | Silver 65,251 | Dollar 82.83 | Euro 88.35 | GBP 99.37

Plan to set up air pollution measuring equipment at important traffic junctions as per State Action Plan on Air Pollution under CPCB review

BAD AIR DAYS

2 of 12 NAAQS parameters over permissible levels in Bengaluru

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According to the 'State Action Plan on Air Pollution' prepared by the Environmental Management & Policy Research Institute (EMPRI), Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) might be setting up air pollution measuring equipment at important traffic junctions in Bengaluru soon.

The report submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) mentioned that action is being taken by KSPCB and Forest, Ecology & Environment department to set up air pollution measuring equipment at important traffic junctions and other such places to display the level of air pollution. The idea is to make citizens aware of the quality of the air they are breathing.

The action plan prepared under the National Clean Air Programme is for 4 non-attainment cities in Karnataka, namely Bengaluru, Hubli-Dharwad, Davanagere and Kalaburagi.

According to officials from the KSPCB, the report from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **"We have received a few queries from the board, and we have been given one month to clarify the points..."** — KSPCB official

Virtual reality of state govt schools

'In Karnataka, just 5,308 out of 49,679 (10%) govt schools have internet facility'

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While the central government focuses on digitisation of education, just 10% of the government schools in Karnataka have internet facilities. The situation is similar in most states and union territories in the country.

The union minister of state for education Subhas Sarkar informed the Lok Sabha in a written response on Monday that a very small percentage of government schools across the country have access to internet facilities.

In Karnataka, 5,308 out of 49,679 government schools have internet facilities available, as per the UDISE+ survey 2021-22, the minister answered in Lok Sabha.

On the other hand, all 2,762 government schools in Delhi have internet. In addition, all government schools in Puducherry (422) and Chandigarh (123) are equipped with internet connectivity.

Despite poor infrastructure in most public schools, the union budget had relatively significant focus on the digitisation of education. As BM has reported earlier, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 An electrifying performance

India's biggest multi-genre music and lifestyle festival is all set to flare its musical wave after 3 years. With a vast range of pop culture-defining experiences and performances, adding to the excitement, especially for the folks in Bengaluru is UK's breakthrough pop-star and Psycho-hitmaker Anne-Marie and Nigerian singer and Love Nwantiti fame Chukwuka Ekweani aka CKay's electrifying performances at India's electronic city at Vh1 Supersonic Mainstage Bengaluru. Both Anne-Marie and CKay are performing in India for the very first time, so don't miss out!
Where: Bhartiya City, Kannuru
When: February 24, 4 pm onwards
Tickets: gosupersonic.in

02 Dance it out!

The greatest of all competitions for dance, the Dance World Cup is expecting participation from 56 different countries with almost 1,800 competitors from across the world. India has bagged multiple gold, silver and bronze medals at the World Cup in the last 10 years, and it could be you this year! **Link: www.dwc-india.com**
Register: till 31st March

03 Book talk

Speaking Tiger and Atta Galatta presents "Song of the Golden Sparrow", a book launch by Nilanjan P Choudhury. The author will be in conversation with Sumeet Shetty, President of Literati, India's largest corporate book club. The book is the story of Manhoos and Mary. Mirrored in their tumultuous lives, is the history of free India from 1947 to 2022. It is satire at its best – sharp, extremely funny, often moving, and always thoroughly entertaining.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar
When: February 18, 6:30 pm

There's a 3D touch in India's space odyssey

Bengaluru firm 3D prints part that will ensure an astronaut stays safe in case of aborted launch of spacecraft; to be used in Gaganyaan next year

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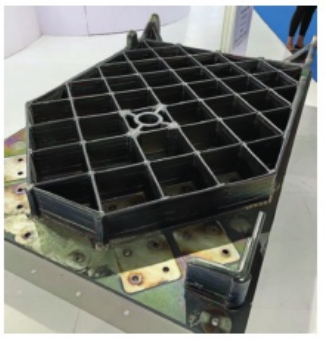
PRIYANSHA

ISRO Chairman S Somanath (left) and Ankit Patel (in white) at Aero Show with the 3D printed grid fins



Grid fins-titanium-based components are crucial to a spacecraft's safety parameters. As India gears up for her first human space mission, launch of Gaganyaan, in 2024, Ankit Aerospace, a Bengaluru-based manufacturer of parts and components for the global aerospace industry, has been reducing usage of titanium and maximising the manufacture of additives for the mission. The manufacturing company recently showcased its latest 3D-printed grid fins at Aero Show 2023.

"In the past, traditionally, it used to begin with a big block of metal and one would carve out everything, including what was not needed -- just how a sculpture is carved out of a whole stone. On the other hand, when you talk about 3D-printing or additives, you only start with the amount of material you need and you deposit in the shape you require, that's what we did on a large scale," said Ankit Patel, CEO of Ankit Aerospace explained.

To differentiate, a lot of 3D printing happens with powder-based technology. In powder-based technology, one can't make big components, it's restricted to 2-3 metres. Whereas, with this new technology, one can print large scale structures, easily and rapidly, he informed.

In case of an aborted launch, or mission failure, with the help of the launch pad, the first priority would be to secure the astronauts' life. After that, immediately separating the crew module from the rest of the spacecraft would be the priority. That's the time when the grid can be launched. The 3D-printed grid fin is likely to undergo a series of tests. Once approved by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), they are likely to make more grid fins for India's mission.

"With the support of ISRO, we took up the challenge of developing a new technology to be able to make large-scale additive manufacturing for their human space programme. This was about four years ago, where they gave out a problem statement and wanted some companies to work on it at a large scale, and we took up the challenge. That's how our journey started for us," said Ankit.

The goal remains on how to leverage this technology for other projects in the country, and as additive gets more mainstream, it will open up for large structures within the country, he added.

The technology is able to print big structures through additives, conventionally it was done by making it into three pieces and wielding it together. Now a finished shape can be manufactured, close to the finished size at one shot through a titanium wire.

Meanwhile, a senior scientist from ISRO told Bangalore Mirror that the grid fins are essential to stabilise the crew module in case of an emergency on the launch pad or in the initial stage of flight and rescue the crew.

"The large size grid fins are made through Electron Beam Additive Manufacturing (EBAM) technology. The 3D printing of titanium alloy components is done in a large size vacuum chamber. A titanium alloy wire is used as the feedstock or the input material and an electron beam melts it and deposits layer by layer until the whole part is built on a substrate plate of the same material," he said.

The grid fin, thus produced, is a near net-shaped component and requires minimum material removal to get the final component to be put into use.

"The 3D-printed grid fins would significantly bring down the buy to fly ratio from 21 in case of conventional forged and machined blocks to 4 in case of 3D printing or additive manufacturing. It also gives the flexibility of reducing the part count which includes the brackets and fasteners in case of conventional route to a single part," he explained.

Visiting Aero India? Beware of phishers

Bengalureans planning to visit Aero India were surprised to receive an email on Wednesday which stated that their Aero India application had been accepted and e-tickets were provided. However, it turned out to be a phishing email and authorities warned not to open such attachments.

"I wanted to visit Aero India but was surprised to receive a mail on Wednesday morning stating that my application had been accepted and e-ticket was attached. However, before opening the attachment, I checked the email address and it turned out to be fake," said Naresh R, a resident of Dasarahalli.

Another netizen said that the scamsters had crafted the email in such a way that anyone could just believe that it was an official mail. It was a warning for people not to believe in such phishing mails which could compromise important data in the system and even corrupt the system as well.

Traffic dos & don'ts

As Bengaluru police gear up to handle the additional traffic on the airport road for the next two days, the police have made alternative arrangements. "It is expected that a large number of people will attend the show. General public should avoid Airport Road on Thursday and Friday and use alternative routes. Vehicles moving towards International Airport and vehicles coming from International Airport towards city compulsorily use Hennur-Bagalur Road. Those who want to visit the Aero India Show can avail the parking facility available at GKVK campus and also Jakkur campus. BMTC has arranged shuttle buses from the parking lot to the venue of the Aero India show," said an update.

The circular also said that all types of goods vehicles and heavy vehicles except BMTC buses are banned on Airport Road from 06.00 am to 10.00 pm.

The parking of all types of vehicles has been prohibited on both sides of the road from Nagenahalli gate to the Ambiance Dhaba cross connecting Bengaluru-Airport Road, Mehkri circle to Devanahalli, Goraguntepalya to Hennur junction, Reva College junction to Bagalur Cross and Nagawara Junction to Bagalur Junction via Thanisandra Main Road. **— BMB**

Take the bus, Chief Minister

Campaign seeking funds for public transport suggests CM travels in BMTC bus when he comes to present budget

SAFE JOURNEY FOR ALL
ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR BMTC NOW
YOU KNOW WHAT'S COOL? BUS LANES!
YOU KNOW WHAT WILL BE COOLER? TO RIDE IN A ₹40 Cr VEHICLE FOR FREE

File photo of activists of Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike gathered to put forth their demands

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Adding to the budget expectations and demands that were released for the BMTC bus services ahead of the upcoming state budget, mobility activists in the city have also started an online campaign urging chief minister Basavaraj Bommai to take the bus when he comes to present the budget on February 17.

"It is part of the ongoing campaign. We have been campaigning for years now but though we have not been very successful in achieving things like getting the bus fares reduced or getting more buses to the fleet, it is still good to see that more people have joined the conversation about the need to shift to the bus... There are so many groups campaigning for the bus and its benefits in the city today. Similarly, just like the people are recognizing the issue, we want the government to also see this change," Shaheen Shasa of Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike (BBPV) told BM.

"By asking him to take the bus, we are urging the chief minister to show his support for the BMTC buses. Also if he does so, it would allow him to understand the situation on ground much better. Often officials and politicians know it in principle but they do not really understand what the people face on a daily basis without a proper mode of affordable and adequate public transport," she added.

As a part of the campaign 'Budget for Bus', Bengalureans also gathered at the Majestic bus stop last week and formed a human chain to demand budget support for public transport in the upcoming session.

BangaloreMirror
All problems, 1 solution: Boost public transport
Demand for Budget — More buses to solve traffic woes in environment-friendly manner

BM had reported on Feb 14 about city's demand for better public transport

Free ride

The demands for the budget are free rides for women, elderly, students and transgenders. In addition, funds for more buses and minibuses to be added to the fleet and more manpower is also sought. The activists have also demanded that drivers and conductors be given a permanent status of employment as many are still hired on a contract basis.

The activists say that it is a symbolic campaign so that more people would be willing to take the bus in the future. "He will be able to understand the issues faced by the commuters much better. For example, there are areas on the outskirts, or the interior parts of the city, where either the bus doesn't go at all or the frequency is very bad. We are trying to tell the authorities that it is not all good and they should invest more into the BMTC bus services," said Shilpa Rao, a citizen activist.

"BMTC caters to almost 30 to 35 lakh people in Bengaluru but it has been deprioritised by the government. There are funds for flyovers and the metro, but the BMTC is being neglected despite its huge ridership," she added.

Currently, the BMTC operates only 5,600 buses out of its fleet of nearly 6,500.

House helps accused of burglary arrested

CRIME FILES

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A couple, who would become househelps to allegedly steal from the houses they work at, has been arrested. Bikas and his wife Sukshmita who hail from Nepal, have been arrested in connection with a case of theft by the Jayanagar police.

Bikas, who used to work at a house in Jayanagar 5th Block, is said to have stolen things from the house when the owner was not there and escaped.

According to the police, gold jewellery weighing 192 grams and 168 grams of silver and 18 branded watches worth Rs 21 lakh have been seized from the arrested accused. In the meantime, it is also known that the police have laid a trap to arrest another absconding accused, Hemant.

House break-in

The case of house burglary in continues to be reported frequently in the city. In another case, the miscreants broke the lock and entered a house in Shanti Nagar and stole Rs 5 lakh from the locker. The miscreants committed the crime on February 7 at the home of teacher Anupama Pai, at Swastik Cross.

The miscreants broke and damaged the CCTV cameras of the house before the theft. The family members suspected that Shankar, who was taking care of Anupama's father, had broken into the house and committed the theft. Officials said a case has been registered at the Ashok Nagar Police Station.

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Hold your noses

BBMP waste processing unit in BDA Layout reportedly making children, aged residents fall sick quite frequently

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(Below) Residents of Banashankari 6th phase gathered to protest about stench emanating from a BBMP waste processing unit in their area once again on Wednesday morning

Hundreds of residents from Banashankari 6th phase gathered on Wednesday morning to continue their protest over the unbearable stench emanating from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) waste processing unit in the area.

According to the residents, the foul smell and plant waste has turned into a fly breeding site. They complain that the unhygienic conditions are leading to health issues among children and aged citizens in the area.

"Many children and elderly people are getting bouts of fever, cough, throat itching, and vomiting. We are worried about our health as the constant stench has been there for over a year now. We have raised this concern multiple times with various authorities, but no action has been taken so far, forcing us to take this step," said T S Mahesha, president of Banashankari 6th stage Resident Welfare Organisation (RWO).

Residents said they would continue with the protest on Thursday, February 16 as well. They told Bangalore Mirror that the plant became operational yet again in February 2022, after years of an order to stop operations from the National Green Tribunal. The 200-tonne capacity plant is located in the middle of the BDA Layout.

"We want the civic body to either close down the unit or move it someplace else. The plant is spread over 29 acres of land and is located in the middle of the residential layout with a population of over 10,000 people. The stench coming from the unit is strong enough to spread over a three to four-kilometre radius. It was started in 2014, and after we approached the NGT, the tribunal put a stay on it. However, BBMP appealed to the Supreme Court (SC) and got it to operate based on false promises," said a resident of the layout who participated in the protest.

> **"We want the civic body to either close down the unit or move it someplace else. The stench from the unit spreads over a 3-km radius** – Resident

Interestingly, BBMP has not taken any action despite a letter written by the Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, directing the civic body to resolve the issue. "The CM directed BBMP to take action after our local MLA decided to take up the issue with higher authorities. However, nothing has changed on the ground," said Mahesha.

When Bangalore Mirror reached out to the BBMP official concerned, they said, "The plant is running after directions from the SC. The decision to close the plant or move it elsewhere has to come from the government. Meanwhile, we are doing everything we can to keep the stench under control. The plant is being run as per the SOP set by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and the leachate has been transferred to other waste processing units. Having said that, no matter where the plant is shifted to, every wet waste processing plant will emit a stench and locals will raise a complaint."

It's time to stop band-aid measures

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In a quick response to a report published by Bangalore Mirror, a Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) executive engineer sent workers on Monday morning to fix a concrete slab that had slipped into a drain on Saturday in Halasuru.

Bangalore Mirror published the news in an article (Citizens fall through cracks of poor-quality drain work) on February 13, talking about how two-wheeler riders rushed to the rescue of Navaneetha, an individual who fell into the drain when one of the concrete slabs slipped into the drain. Many pedestrians appreciated the BBMP engineer's quick action. They opined that engineers have to ensure quality drain work and inspect the spot (drain) before releasing funds to the contractor.

Bangalore Mirror
Citizens fall through cracks of poor-quality drain work

BM's report on Feb 13 spoke about a woman falling into a drain in Halasuru after one of the slabs gave away

BBMP workers fixing a drain in Halasuru which caused an accident on Saturday

"I want to thank the BBMP executive engineer for sending men to fix the concrete slab, but I am not happy with the quality of the work done by BBMP workers in the first place. The slab has not been fixed properly. It may fall into the drain anytime," said Chandran BR, an activist from Halasuru. Echoing similar views, Krishna S, a pedestrian, said that he was not happy with the poor quality of work done by the contractor. "It seems that the BBMP workers, as usual, did not focus on fixing the concrete slab. They just removed the slab from the drain and kept it on top of it without bothering whether it was fixed properly," he said.

> **"More concrete slabs can fall into the drain any time** – Ashok Naidu, resident of the area

Ashok Naidu, a resident of Jogupalya, said that BBMP engineers have to ensure that contractors fix the concrete slabs on drains. "There are some more concrete slabs that can fall into the drain at any time due to the poor quality of work. I want the BBMP engineers to visit the drains to replace broken concrete slabs to avoid pedestrians falling into them," said Naidu.

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9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Anybody's vehicle?

Jayanagar

This vehicle has been parked for over two years in 10 C Main, 1st block Jayanagar.

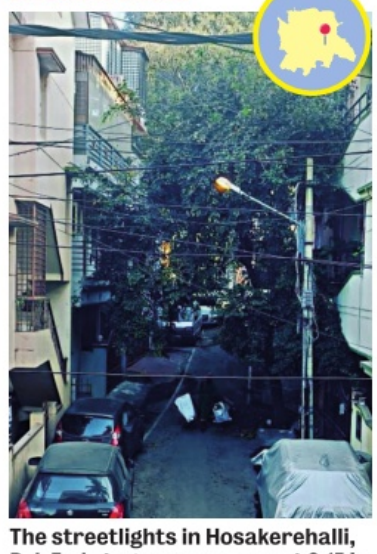
Cluttered area

Old Madras Road

The main road (17 F Cross) connecting Old Madras Road and CMH Road, Indiranagar is full of parked heavy vehicles and debris.

Lights gone awry

Hosakerehalli



The streetlights in Hosakerehalli, Bsk 3rd stage are on even at 8:15 in the morning.

Something foul and dark in the pipeline

Cable-laying work damages water pipeline; residents find sewage & dirty water in homes

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Cable-laying work was sanctioned in Pai Layout but it damaged the water pipeline

Digging up well-asphalted roads for laying underground cables has been a pet peeve for many in Bengaluru. Lack of coordination among different civic departments has always resulted in citizens bearing the brunt. In a recent incident, a telecom provider dug up the road in Pai Layout on Bannerghatta Road and damaged the water pipelines. As a result, sanitary waste began to enter homes through the lines and many residents fell sick.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had given permission to an optical fibre cable company for laying OFC cables of 1,942.53 metre on Hulimavu Main Road. According to the order, the work has to be completed before 18 February 2023.

According to the residents, while the work was carried out, the Cauvery water pipeline was damaged and it got mixed with the waste water. Most of the houses in the locality started to get dirty water in their houses with a bad odour.

A resident from Pai Layout, First Cross said, "There were three pits dug up three weeks ago in our locality. The workers did not know and where the sanitary line and Cauvery pipeline is located and they ended up damaging the water pipe line. All the waste water started entering our houses. When we opened our taps, the water colour was dark and there was a bad smell. We had to then order tankers for our own use."

> **On opening the tap, the water was dark & there was a bad smell**
>
> –A resident of Pai Layout

Another resident added that in the previous week, they did not get any water. All the residents had to order water from water tankers. They had to clean the sumps and overhead tanks. The OFC provider showed us the order that they had got permission from BBMP. "But that doesn't mean that they damage the pipelines while the work is carried out. All the residents had to face the brunt. People had to pay Rs 5,000 to get the tankers and to clean up the sumps."

The residents also pointed out that many of individuals even fell sick. Some consumed the water unknowingly and fell sick. They had stomach ailments, diarrhoea and vomiting, added a resident.

The residents reported it to the local elected representatives and even the BWSSB officials to fix the pipeline. On Wednesday, work was in progress to fix the lines, however, it wasn't completed in time.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PROPOSE ONLY

Testing times, but don't forget masks!

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With the CBSE board examinations for Class 10 and 12 starting on Wednesday across the country, schools are ensuring students wear masks and follow covid protocols in the examination halls.

Unlike previous two years, the CBSE has not issued any guidelines itself regarding use of masks by students during the upcoming board exams. The students are expected to follow whatever covid restrictions are there in their respective states or if their schools have put up any restrictions.

"Even though the covid cases this year are very low, the covid-19 guidelines are being followed across all the schools in the city just like the last two years. We are making sure that in the examination hall, there will be sufficient social distancing. Sanitisation, temperature check, etc is also being done for both the students and the faculty. Even though things are looking positive right now, we want to stay on the safer side," explained Father Sunil Fernandes, Principal, St Joseph's Boys High School.

"For example, if there is a student who is showing symptoms or is sick, we have a separate examination room with separate invigilator for such cases. We are following whatever covid protocols there have been in the year 2021 and 2022," Father Fernandes added.

Schools say that they have made all the necessary arrangements to make the examination halls disabled-friendly as well, as directed by the board.

> **We just want to stay on the safer side**
>
> — Father Sunil Fernandes, Principal, St Joseph's Boys High School

"This year also we will make sure that the students are following the three basic covid-19 protocol at all times that is sanitising, wearing masks and social distancing," said Deepali RK, teacher at a private CBSE school in Bengaluru.

The exams for Class 10 will end on March 21 while the Class 12 exams are scheduled to end on April 5 this year. The examination will start at 10:30 in the morning and the students have been advised to follow all instructions included in their admit cards.

2 held for trying to 'kill MLA'

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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A case has been registered at Bommanahalli police station and two accused have been arrested for conspiring to kill Bommanahalli BJP MLA Satish Reddy. His PA Harish Babu has filed a complaint in the police station. It has been alleged that rowdy Wilson Garden Naga was given money to murder the MLA.

Four miscreants brought petrol cans and set fire to two luxury cars in the MLA's residence. They were caught on CCTV. The accused were arrested within two days.

The complaint mentions that Wilson Garden got Rs two crore to kill Reddy. The Bommanahalli police, who had registered the NCR earlier, got permission from the court and registered an FIR against Wilson Garden Naga, and others.

Man stabs lover

The Ashok Nagar police arrested the accused in the case of the murder of teacher Irfanaz Khanam alias Kausar Mubin, 34, which took place near Nanjappa Circle in Shanti Nagar.

The accused has been identified as Nadeem Pasha, 37, a native of Mandya.

Accused Nadeem, who is a mechanic by profession, had an affair with the teacher. It has been revealed in the investigation that Mubin was murdered on February 13 afternoon when the accused came to wish her on her birthday.

Nadeem, who has divorced his first wife, became friends with Mubin. Nadeem had proposed to remarry Mubin but her family opposed this request.

> **The miscreants set fire to two luxury cars in the MLA's yard**

According to the police, on February 13, Nadeem had come to Mubin's home to greet her on her birthday. Mubeen refused and asked him to return the loan she had given to him when he proposed remarriage. A fight started and it turned violent.

The police said that the investigation revealed that Nadeem stabbed Mubin in the chest and neck with a knife and escaped.

"Nadeem was arrested and interrogated and confessed to the murder," said a senior police officer.

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The application form may be downloaded from the school website and should be mailed to sonu.gupta@pp.balbharati.org within 10 days.

Air dresser at junctions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

EMPRI is under review by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and any decisions on the measures will be taken after it is approved by the central board.

"The report has been prepared by EMPRI and has now been submitted to CPCB. We have received a few queries from the board, and we have been given one month to clarify the points. Once the report is approved by CPCB, we will review the proposals made in the report and make decisions accordingly," said a senior official from KSPCB.

Under vehicular emissions policy, the action plan mentions the installation of a CAAQMS unit (Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station) at RTO, Bengaluru (East), which is under progress to monitor the air quality in the city.

The plan has been prepared following an order passed by the National Green Tribunal a few months ago, directing the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to file reports regarding action taken for preparing the State Action Plan as envisaged by the NCAP. The green tribunal had also directed the pollution watchdog to clarify the actions being taken by the government in implementing the scheme.

Once the report is approved by CPCB, state pollution board will review proposals made in it and decide accordingly

As per the report, 2 out of the 12 notified parameters under National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have exceeded permissible levels in Bengaluru and other three non-attainment cities in Karnataka.

"The ambient air quality data of the KSPCB and that of the CPCB indicate that the particulate matter of size less than 10 microns called Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (PM10) and Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) are exceeding the standards in some of the places in Karnataka. The major sources of these pollutants include industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, construction and demolition waste, road dust, emissions from the burning of solid waste and agro residues, and household emissions," read the report.

According to the report, a separate action plan for improving the air quality of Bengaluru, Hubli-Dharwad, Davanagere, and Kalaburgi by reducing Particulate Matter emissions, is under implementation.

Rescue is the mission

City-based vet explains how she saved leopardess at Niddodi in Dakshina Kannada; big cat had to be tranquilised as locals were scared how it would react when set free

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Recently, a leopardess was sighted, after being stuck inside a well for two days without food. The rescuers wanted to save the animal but it was a challenging task as to how to catch the big cat without tranquilising her. As the animal had hidden in a small cave inside the well, the big question was who would dare to tranquilise her inside the well.

A 31-year-old Bengaluru based veterinary doctor took up the challenge, and successfully rescued the animal. Caging herself with the dart gun, she had to wait for nearly 15 minutes before the big cat fell unconscious.

Dr Meghana Pemmaiah told Bangalore Mirror that it was one of the most challenging rescue missions of her career.

"At around 9:30 am, we received a call that a leopardess was stuck in a well for the last two days. We reached the place at Niddodi near Kateel in Dakshina Kannada district at around 11:30 am. Many people had gathered but none could do anything much as the leopardess had hidden in a cave-like structure so that it wouldn't fall into the water," she said.

"We gauged that the leopardess may be 15 to 20 feet below the ground, inside the well. Though our team was ready to rescue the animal, we had to first tranquilise it. However, for hitting the dart, the leopardess could not be seen from the top. Hence, we decided that it was time for someone to get inside the well to search for the animal and tranquilise it," she informed.

Though the veterinary doctor had taken all the necessary precautions, it was still a risky mission as no one had a clue as to how the leopardess would react. As everybody doubted that the leopardess may turn aggressive, a cage was brought in.

The leopardess was stuck at 15 to 20 feet below the ground, inside the well. According to the experts, the big cat had no external injuries

"Many people had gathered but none could do anything much as the leopardess had hidden in a cave like structure to avoid falling into the water
–Dr Meghana Pemmaiah, a veterinary doctor

"Armed with a dart, I got into the cage. The volunteers brought in ropes to drop the cage slowly inside the well. Around 10 to 15 feet inside the well, I could finally spot the animal. It was growling at me thoughh-she looked quite tired without water or food. I had very little time, and hence aimed the dart at the animal and shot at her. Luckily, the dart hit her thigh in the first attempt itself," she explained.

Further, the challenge for her was to sit in the cage as it would take another 15 minutes for the big cat to fall unconscious. It kept on growling and looking at her.

After the big cat fell unconscious, another volunteer got down the well and helped the doctor to pull the animal, weighing 20 kg inside the cage.

"Once we were back to the ground, our team of experts Dr Yashasvi Naravi, Dr Prithvi and Dr Nafisa examined the animal and it had no external injuries. After a thorough check, the animal was fit to go and hence we released it in the wild," she recalled.

Dr Meghana who hails from Kodagu district has studied in Bengaluru. She is currently working in a rescue mission saving animals.In the last one year, the veterinary doctor has rescued around six leopards.

"With forests being encroached, many of the leopards are being spotted. The leopards head to nearby villages to prey on dogs and this is when they fall into a well or get caught in snares," she further added.

Sinkhole left disregarded

Iffath Fathima
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Residents of Gottigere are upset after another sinkhole appeared in the area, which has been left unattended by the civic bodies.

Due to heavily loaded vehicles using the inner roads that aid in the supply of construction materials for the buildings in and around the area, a sinkhole appeared in front of the Sri Sai Supreme Apartment in Gottigere (ward 194) almost a week ago. This sinkhole is so deep that it also damaged the underlying water pipelines.

Although the Bangalore Water Supply Sewerage Board (BWSSB) fixed the leak in the water pipe, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is yet to cover the sinkhole.

Meanwhile, the residents had to come forward to carry out a temporary fix by filling in construction debris and putting stones around the sunken area so that the commuters avoid traveling through the spot.

Residents were compelled to fill the sinkhole with construction debris

Kishore, a resident of the apartment, raised a complaint with the BBMP on February 10, 2023. However, the BBMP is yet to look into the issue.

"Lately, there have been many sinkhole issues in the city; we saw one in front of our apartment a week ago. Though we raised a complaint with the BBMP, the civic body is yet to fix it. This sinkhole is 1 to 2 feet deep and is posing a risk to the commuters. We carried out a temporary fix by ourselves, but that won't last for long," he said.

The residents also raised seven tickets on Sahaaya app but nobody came to address the issue.

"A BBMP engineer's number was sent to us and we called the engineer. However, he asked us to contact another official. When we contacted another official, the official said they would come to inspect the area. Even till Wednesday nobody came to rectify the problem," he explained.

Other residents added that sinkholes are caused by shoddy work by contractors and a lack of supervision by the BBMP on such projects

"Various civic agencies shirk responsibilities and are quick to blame each other, but show no urgency in acting on the matter. Despite receiving a complaint from the residents, BBMP has not bothered to repair the sinkhole. This shows how irresponsible the civic body is," said Poongothai, a member of BNP.

BNP demands that the BBMP take serious action against contractors who get away with such substandard works and fix these sinkholes immediately, she added.

When Bangalore Mirror tried contacting the BBMP officials, they remained unresponsive.

Bishop has high ground

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bishop Samuel's term has been extended by 3 years

Protests against Karnataka Central Diocese Bishop Prasanna Kumar Samuel seem to have been silenced with his term being extended by three more years. Some people had been protesting against alleged irregularities taking place in the Karnataka Central Diocese after he became the Bishop.

Recently, a group of people attempted to barge into the Bishop Cotton School premises where a meeting was in progress. Prior to this, three people, including two advocates, barged into the meeting hall at Hubballi. There were FIRs and cases registered against Samuel and others, but all complaints were dismissed by the competent authority. The latest complaint was regarding Samuel allegedly influencing the Synod to extend the retirement age of Bishops from 67 to 70 years.

However, Samuel maintained that he had nothing to do with the resolution passed by the Synod of the CSI.

He told Bangalore Mirror that he was prepared to go home on February 10. Rev A Dharmaraj Rasalam, Moderator of CSI, wrote a letter to Samuel on February 13, extending the retirement age of bishops from 67 years to 70 years.

Meanwhile, Samuel wants to utilise the extension to construct more churches, hostels, and schools for the benefit of students.

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50-cabin ropeway in Nandi Hills – arriving soon

While it will be Karnataka's first ropeway, green activists say it will impact regional biodiversity

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Karnataka is among the few Indian states that do not have a ropeway yet

| Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The first ropeway in the state is set to take shape in Nandi Hills. Tenders have been awarded to a firm and the work may begin soon. It is expected to take a year to be completed. The company will build the ropeway and manage and maintain it for 30 years. Around 20 pillars will be laid from the foothills to the end point and the tallest pillar may be 35 metres tall. According to the proposal, the ropeway will have a maximum capacity of 50 cabins, although 25 cabins may be operational in the beginning. Each cabin may accommodate 10 passengers. Minister for Health and Chikkaballapur, Dr K Sudhakar, said that the ropeway is a long pending project and will be executed at the earliest. The much-awaited 2.93 km-long project will be developed on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

Karnataka is one of the very few Indian states to not have a ropeway yet. Now, proposals have been made to start ropeways at 13 sites across the state. However, activists say that the ropeway project should not be undertaken in haste as it can affect biodiversity.

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said that Karnataka wants ropeways in Nandi Hills (Chikkaballapur district), Mullayanagiri (Chikkamagaluru district), Chamundi hills (Mysuru), Kodachadri Hills (Udupi district), DevarayanaDurga (Tumakuru district), Anjanadri Hills (Koppal district), Jog falls (Shivamogga district), Yana (Uttara Kannada district), Kumara Parvatha (Kodagu district), Madhugiri fort (Tumakuru district), Kemmanagudi (Chikkamagaluru district), connecting islands located in Sagar backwaters (Shivamogga district), Rajhansgad (Belagavi district), Chapeli (Uttara Kannada district), and Joida (Uttara Kannada district).

> **Ropeways promote tourism as many people who are unable to climb or walk can use them. For example, Madhugiri Hill is a challenge to scale for a lot of people**
>
> – Tourism department official

A tourism department official said, "Ropeways promote tourism as many people who are unable to climb or walk can use them. For example, Madhugiri Hill is considered to be one of the largest monoliths in Asia and it is a challenge to scale the same. However, if we have a ropeway, then even those who are unable to climb can enjoy the hills. Another example is Mullayanagiri, the highest peak in Karnataka."

Kapil Mohan (Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism Department) said that the ropeway will reduce the time taken to reach Nandi Hills and curb pollution in the area apart from offering scenic aerial views of the surrounding areas. Revenue and non-revenue generating facilities have been planned at upper and lower landing stations. There are plans for creating a parking facility for private and rented vehicles and ATMs at the foothills.

However, green activist Joseph Hoover said, "In the last one-and-a-half decades, the state has witnessed seven or eight severe droughts, severe floods, landslides, and sea erosion, including unprecedented floods in Bengaluru. On one hand, the state government seeks World Bank assistance to make Karnataka climate resilient, and on the other, the government is sitting on the fence and allowing the ropeway project at Kodachadri to destroy the Western Ghats."

There has been opposition from environmentalists for ropeway projects in Chamundi Hills as well.

RESPONSE CONNECT INITIATIVE

Dr Sneba J
Sr Consultant Fertility, Sexual Medicine and Gynaecology
NU HOSPITALS
Urinary, Kidney Care, Fertility & Transplant Center
Consultant Andrologist,
Dept of Urology at NU Hospitals, Bengaluru NU Hospitals-Near to ISKCON, 4/1,
Chord Rd, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru

Female genital hygiene explained

1 What symptoms do women face?
About 60% of women face some or the other bothersome symptoms related to their external genitalia. The various symptoms include itching in the vulva, burning/stinging sensation, redness, pain, feeling of the urge to pass urine, pain with intercourse or feeling of wetness/ discharge in the region.

2 What is vulva?
Vulva is the portion on the outer side of vagina. This includes the two lips – labia majora and labia minora, clitoris and perineum(portion between the anus and vaginal opening)

3 Should I frequently wash the area?
It is advisable to clean the external genital area with lukewarm water, not more than once a day by gently separating the labia. Frequent washing can be harmful as it washes off the good bacteria in the region, changing its pH which enables the harmful disease causing microorganisms to thrive. These further worsen the genital symptoms. Wiping the region with a dry tissue paper may be preferable.

4 What else should I remember?
Avoid wearing tight fitting inner wear. The vagina has its own mechanism of cleansing itself. Creams and vaginal wash must be avoided. The external genital area has a portion of skin and a portion of mucosal membrane with a transitional area in between. Numerous infections, allergies and skin conditions may cause abnormal symptoms in the vulva and vagina. If the symptoms are bothersome or excessive, consult your physician. —Prakash VL

Selected answers will be published in this column
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Spotlight is on fake social media campaigns

Investigation inspired by work of Gauri Lankesh, journalist who was shot dead outside her home in B'luru

 # London

A team of Israeli contractors who are feared to have interfered with more than 30 elections around the world have been linked with software to operate fake social media campaigns across several countries, including India, a report said on Wednesday.

In an international investigation by a journalist consortium including by "The Guardian" newspaper in the UK, a so-called "Team Jorge" unit has been linked with allegedly offering a sophisticated software package named Advanced Impact Media Solutions (Aims) to commercial clients as one of its key services.

The unit is said to be run by Tal Hanan, a 50-year-old former Israeli special forces operative who works privately using the pseudonym "Jorge", and Team Jorge is accused of using means such as hacking, sabotage, and automated disinformation online.

When questioned, Hanan told the investigation that he denies "any wrongdoing".

The newspaper report said on Wednesday that over several months last year, along with its reporting partners on the investigation, it had tracked Aims-linked bot activity across the internet and found it was behind "fake social media campaigns, mostly involving commercial disputes, in about 20 countries including the UK, US, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Mexico, Senegal, India, and the United Arab Emirates".

The consortium of journalists that investigated Team Jorge includes reporters from 30 global media outlets including Le Monde, Der Spiegel, and El País.

The project, part of a wider investigation into the disinformation industry, has been coordinated by Forbidden Stories, a French non-profit with a mission to pursue the work of assassinated, threatened or jailed reporters.

The investigation is part of Story killers, a collaboration led by Forbidden Stories, and was inspired by the work of Gauri Lankesh, a 55-year-old journalist who was shot dead outside her Bengaluru home in 2017.

"The Guardian" notes that hours before Lankesh was murdered, she had been putting the finishing touches on an article called "In the Age of False News", which examined how so-called lie factories online were spreading disinformation in India. In the final line of the article, which was published after her death, the late Indian journalist wrote: "I want to salute all those who expose fake news. I wish there were more of them."

The undercover footage for the latest investigation into Team Jorge was filmed by three reporters, who approached the unit posing as prospective clients.

In more than six hours of secretly recorded meetings, Hanan and his team reportedly speak about how they could gather intelligence on rivals, including by using hacking techniques to access Gmail and Telegram accounts. **PTI**

Your Connect

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRIYANKA BIRUDUGADDA, Residing at Flat 206,1st Flr, Mahaveer Palms APT, Lakecity, Kodichikkanahalli, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560076 have changed my name to PRIYANKA MADDALA , vide affidavit dated 15/02/2023, sworn before notary DEVAKI M, Bengaluru.

I, HEMANTA REDDY VAKAMALLA, R/o No. 403, SLV Residency, 6th Main Road, Bagalur Cross, Vinayaka Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560063 have changed my name to HEMANTH REDDY VAKAMALLA, vide affidavit dated 15/02/2023, sworn before notary DEVAKI M, Bengaluru.

I, A T Saira W/o Pradeep M.K Bhaskaran R/o A-902, Ajmera Stone Park, 1st Cross, Neeladri Road, Electronic City, Phase-1, Bangalore, Karnataka 560100 have changed my name to Saira Pradeep Bhaskaran for all purposes.

I Kamar Khan W/o Mohammed Khan R/o Near Beri Wali Masjid,Bhojpur Ghaziabad UP-245304 have changed my name to Kamar Jahan for all purposes.

I, USHA VINIT JAIN, Residing at Flat No.705, Shanthi Park APT, 7th Flr, Build No. 6, Jayanagar 9th Block, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560041, have changed my name to USHA JAIN, vide affidavit dated 15/02/2023, sworn before notary DEVAKI M, Bengaluru.

I Pramod S/O, Maruti Rao Kulkarni R/o 53, Sindhura, 20 A Main, 19 Cross, 1 R Block, Rajajinagar Bangalore 10 have changed my name to Pramod M Kulkarni for all purposes.

I, Venkatesan Kupparaj R/o Sumo Sonnet Apt , B Block , B 504 48/7, Kudlu Main Rd off Hosur road B'lore-560068 have changed my minor daughter name from Adhyasree to V Adhyasree. Affidavit dt 14/02/2023 before notary K V Mani, B'luru.

BANITA Kumari Majhi W/o No.6496030L, L/NK Sushanta Samal R/a Konisi Hata, Khatei Colony 2nd Lane, PO- Konisi, Dist- Ganjam, Odisha my name Banita Kumari Samal to Banita Kumari Majhi magistrate notary Berhampur affidavit no. 6370 dated 14.02.2023.

I, LINGRAJ HIREMATH, Residing at No.2062 Prestige Shantiniketan ITPL Road, near Hoodi Circle, White Field, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560048 have changed my name to LINGRAJ PATRAYYA HIREMATH, vide affidavit dated 15/02/2023 sworn before notary DEVAKI M, Bengaluru.

I, Shanthi w/o Pradeep Kumar M R/o #36, 2nd main road, palace guttahalli, Shesadripuram, Bengaluru 560003 have changed my name to Shanthi Saklecha affidavit Dt.15/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, RAVI E, Residing at Thappagondanahalli Village, Katamdevarakote Post, Talaku Hobli, Chitradurga, Karnataka 577537 have changed my name to RAVI Y, vide affidavit dated 15/02/2023, sworn before notary DEVAKI M, Bengaluru.

I Calvin Fernandez Reginald Fernandez S/O, Reginald Fernandez R/o No 88/2 Plot No 4 And 5 Babusahipalaya Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Calvin Fernandez

I, Asha B W/o Lokesh M R/o No-953, 7th Main , Raghavendra Bloxk,Srinagar , Banashankari B'lore-560050 have changed my minor Son's name from Param L to Priyakrishna. L for all purposes.

I, AJIT, Resident of No. 205, Govt Primary School Road, Jakkur, Bangalore-560064, have changed my name to BABU ARI, vide affidavit dated: 15.02.2023 before notary H.K. Gopalagowda, Bengaluru.

I Ramayya Shetty, R/o B-107, Brigade Omega, BSK 6th stage, Thurahalli, Uttarahalli, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560062, have changed my name to Ramayya V Shetty

I Samson Daniel s/o Samuel Christopher residing in Banaswadi, Bangalore have changed my name from Samson Daniel Prabhu to Samson Daniel for all future purposes.

14826582A HAV FIROJ ALI 2 ATC my son name records Mohammed Rizanoor Sheikh instead of MD Rizanoor SK before notary KV Mani, B.lore.

I Jayachandran R S/O, Raja Reddy R R/o 1/9 2nd Floor Koramangala Main Road Adugodi Bangalore 560030 Karnataka have changed my name to Jayachandra Reddy R

I Mohammed Intzar Ali Khan S/o Intzar Ali R/o Near Beri Wali Masjid Bhojpur Ghazia - bad UP-245304 have changed my name to Mohammed Khan for all purposes

I, Prakash Velaidan S/o Velayadhan residing at No. 15, Krishnalayam 5th Main 1st Cross Near ASC TRG Centre Ibbalur Bangalore – 560102 have changed my name to Prakash Velayadhan vide affidavit dated 24.12.2022 Sworn before Notary B K R Krishnamurthy, Bangalore.

I, Jagadeesh Muniswamy S/o Muniswamy Rajagopal R/o 22, Hennu-Bagalur Main Road, Kothanur, B'luru- 560077 have changed my name to Jagadish Muniswamy Affidavit Dt.15/02/2023 before notary Ganesh Gowda M.V,B'luru

I, VINODAMMA HEGGATTA SIDDEGOWDA, Resident of No. 15, Holebidi, Edabaga Balabaga, Belur, Hassan-573115, have changed my name to VINODHA HEGGATTA SIDDEGOWDA, vide affidavit dated: 14.02.2023 before notary H.K. Gopalagowda, Bengaluru.

I Mohammad Srfaraz Alam S/O, Mohammad Israil R/o #304, Wing 19, Shriram Summit, Gollahalli Main Road, Electronic City Ph 1 Bangalore-560100, have changed my name to Md Sarfaraz Alam

14826582A HAV FIROJ ALI 2 ATC my mother name records Suratan Bibi instead of Surtan Sekh sworn before notary KV Mani, Bangalore.

CHURCH NOTICES

I, Abey Royce R/o No-23 Annayappa Garden , JB Nagar , B'lore have changed my minor Son's name from Alwyn to Alwyn Abey for all purposes.

LOST & FOUND

I Siddharth Mishra R/O Iris A304, DNA, Borewell road Whitefield have lost my btech Certificate year 2014 roll no. 1006410103 enrollment no. 100641009839 UPTU FIR No. 0473713/2023

THE TIMES GROUP

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GET NOTICED

KARNATAKA CHITRAKALA PARISHATH

"Shivaratri Celebration"

A Celebration of Cultural Events · Laughter Show, Music, Dance & Drama

Date: 18-02-2023, Saturday 7.00 pm onwards
Place: Chitrakala Parishath Campus Kumarakrupa Rd., Bengaluru

Laughter Show 7.00 pm
Sri Richard Louis & Team

Drama "Shivaratri" 8.30 pm
Written by Dr. Chandrashekara Kambar
Directed by Sri Jagadish Jaala
Enacted by 'Prayoga Ranga' Team

Dance Program
Smt. Shweta & Team 9.30 pm
Smt. Bhavani Vallabha & Team 10.00 pm

Music-Sugama Sangeeta 11.00 pm
Smt. Nagachandrika Bhat
Movie playback Singer

ALL ARE WELCOME

Dr. B.L. Shankar, President
S.N. Shashidhar, General Secretary
T. Prabhakar, Chairman Cultural Committee

Sawyer is RCB coach

New coach excited about opportunity to join RCB women's cricket team for the 'exhilarating campaign'

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) on Wednesday announced Ben Sawyer as the head coach and former Indian cricketer Malolan Rangarajan as the assistant coach and also chief of scouting of the franchise ahead of the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL).

Sawyer has been in charge of the New Zealand women's cricket team and was also the assistant coach of Australian women's cricket team. He was the head coach of Sydney Sixers in the Women's Big Bash League, guiding them to two titles in 2016-17 and 2017-18. He has the highest winning percentage among all the women's T20 coaches.

On his new role as the RCB Women's Head Coach, Sawyer said: "It is an exciting opportunity for me to join RCB women's cricket team for an exhilarating campaign like the WPL. RCB has a massive fan following across the globe, built on their success and a bold brand of cricket. The work begins now, and we will try to build on that success for the women's cricket team as well in WPL 2023. I will try to deliver my best to ensure a successful season."

While Mike Hesson will continue to assume the role of Director of Cricket, Malolan Rangarajan, who is the Head of Scouting for RCB, will be part of Ben Sawyer's team as the assistant head coach.

The franchise has also appointed former India women cricketer Vanitha VR as the fielding coach. RX Murali is appointed as the Batting Coach. RCB has also roped in Dr Harini Muralidharan as the team manager alongside her role as a team doctor for both RCB women's and men's teams. About the appointment, Prathmesh Mishra, Chairman of RCB, said: "We are excited to name Ben (Sawyer) as the Head Coach for RCB Women's team." **IANS**

'If situation continues, govt schools will shut down'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

school managements in the state had said that very few schools in the state have sufficient infrastructure to access the internet or digital libraries provided by the central government — the state budget should look into providing better infrastructure in order to bridge this gap, they had stressed.

"Internet and computers are secondary infrastructure. Schools in Karnataka do not have running water or separate toilets for girls. The government has failed to provide sufficient funds to support public education in the state for many years now... Instead, the focus is on privatisation and commercialisation of education. If the situation continues, most of the government schools will shut down," said public education expert Niranjan Aradhya.

The latest Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022 highlighted that as many as 67.6% of schools in the state do not have computers available for the students.

The minister of state for education recently clarified that since majority of public skills are under the administration of their respective states, an advisory has been issued by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of India, to all the states and UTs to enter into an agreement with BSNL and to provide FTTH Internet connection to all the government schools that have computing devices.

As per the data, Kerala has the highest number of schools with access to internet connectivity among the states with 4,738 out of 5,010 government schools having internet connectivity. Other southern states performed poorly on the scale with 9,292 out of 37,636 schools in Tamil Nadu and 20,313 out of 45,137 in Andhra Pradesh equipped with internet connectivity.

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
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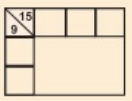
@BangaloreMirror

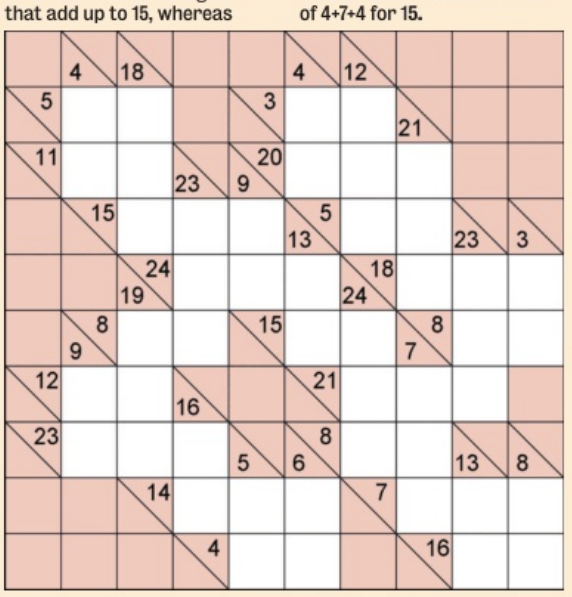
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

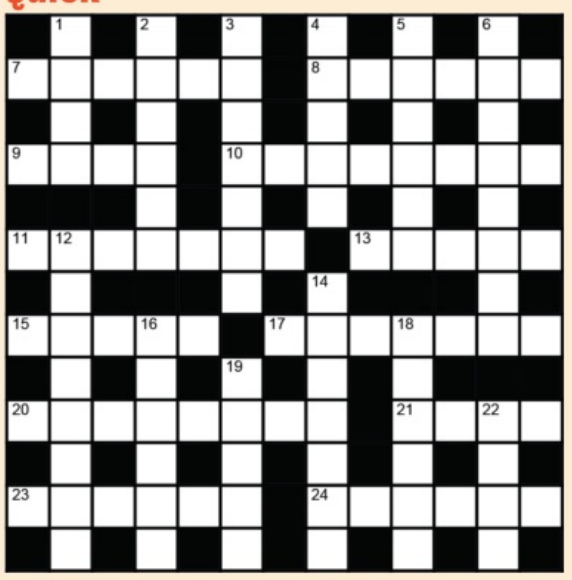


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Covered porch (6)
8 Of land, suitable for crops (6)
9 ___ , Vidi, vici : I came, I saw, I conquered? (4)
10 1983 World Cup winning captain (5,3)
11 Curative process (7)
13 The theatre (5)
15 Upright (5)
17 Planned undertaking (7)
20 Keeping a not so big profile, in a way? (5,3)
21 Monarch (4)
23 Sudden, involuntary and noisy spasm (6)
24 Mistakes (6)

DOWN

1 Drain slowly (4)
2 Less beautiful or more ungainly (6)
3 Substitutes or aids; alternates (7)
4 Tourist destination which used to be the capital of the Vijayanagar Empire (5)
5 Vote, choice or poll (6)
6 Sensitive (8)
12 Rushing, expediting or hastening (8)
14 Killed or died in water (7)
16 Large sea eel (6)
18 Clowns or jesters (6)
19 Lose vital fluid? (5)
22 Fiddling emperor (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS N

LAQGN FEJD KA RALDQ ZA WXRQDNN ZFD XWKG LWZFAYZ ZFD DCBYWNWZD FAQQAQ AO ZFDWQ QDEVWZM.

Linemaro

Oh, those are your shoulders, I thought they were wings

Mindchow

The pause between notes is where art resides

Joke of the day

The best nicknames are those people don't know they have

Loop

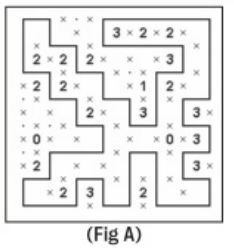
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

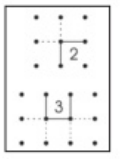
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

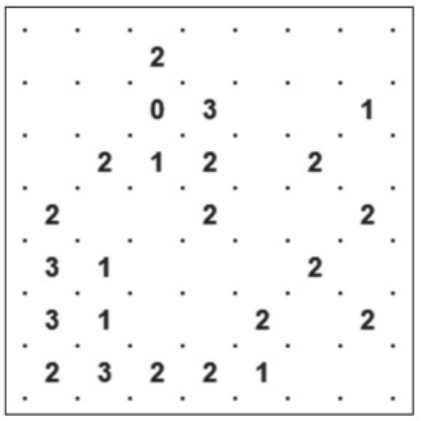
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



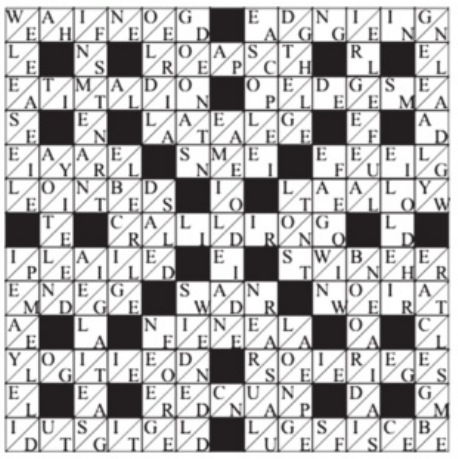
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



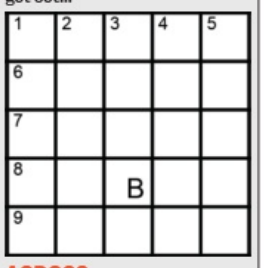
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

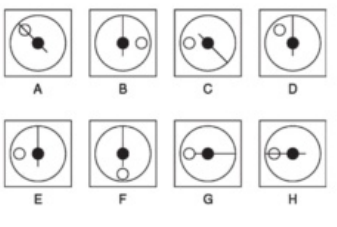
1 Slits; 6 Hut no; 7 Napes; 8 Bait I; 9 Tucks

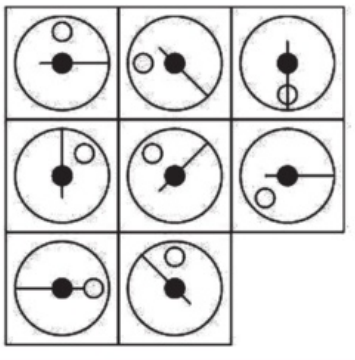
DOWN

1 Sluts; 2 In nit; 3 Hub as; 4 Optic; 5 Stake

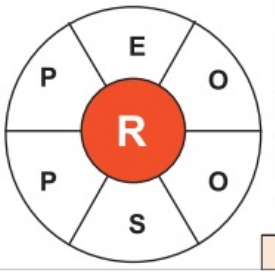
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing square?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

08 Average; **09** Good; **11** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

4		2				7		9
			7		6			
	3			4			6	
	7	6	4		3	1	2	
			8		5			
	1	8	2		7	9	5	
	8			3			1	
			5		2			
9		3				5		6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 10

3 5 5 7

Medium = 40

2 2 4 8

Hard = 2

1 8 9 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

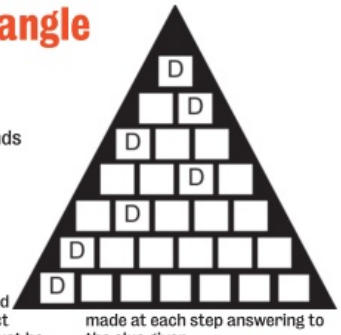
Differences: 1. Suitcase is larger. 2. Backpack is smaller. 3. Moon is different. 4. Window is added. 5. Mouth is closed. 6. Bush is larger.

Riddler

A cracker company was very mad when they heard the results from their cracker survey. The result said that the customers would prefer crackers to nothing at all. The same customers think that donuts are better than everything else. A new employee at the company had to tell their boss the bad news, but he saw a window of opportunity to get a promotion. When he got to his boss, he told him that the customers really preferred crackers to donuts. How did he come up with that?

Alpha triangle

1 Fourth letter
2 Ego's partner?
3 Expire
4 Flank
5 Changes or emends
6 Responsibilities
7 Quarrel



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

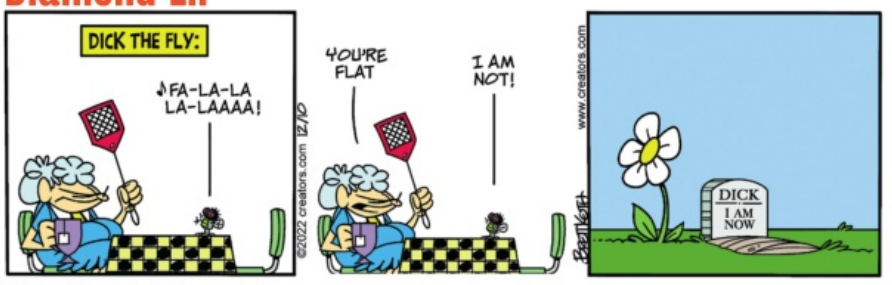
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil



Hart of the city

LAST TAKE! AND DON'T UPSTAGE THE PRODUCT!
RIGHT!
YUM!
THAT'S A WRAP!
GOOD JOB ON SET, CHIPPY. WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?
I'M DOING A CALIFORNIA RAISIN REVIVAL SHOW!

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be spiritual. You may help needy people around you. You may also plan to donate some amount to charity. Your good karma may help you get success in difficult projects. You may feel some divine power around you, which may help you in unpredictable situations. You may be attracted to the occult. Students are likely to enjoy studying in depth.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may feel dull. You may be a victim of hidden fear, which can make you scared. You are not in a situation to trust anyone. It is advised to do meditation and chant some prayers, which may help you to come out of this hypothetical situation. With the help of elders, around late evening, you may come out of this messy situation.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be happy. You may spread happiness around you. You may see harmony in your domestic life. You may enjoy some romantic moments with your spouse. Your family may support you to take some important decisions on the professional front. You may expect some new ventures or partnerships in business.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today the positive moon can make you happy. You can use your patience at every stage. Your performance may be good at work. You may get some incentives in terms of rewards. Health-related issues of family members will be resolved now. Job seekers are likely to get suitable work in their domain. Lovebirds may enjoy dating.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may have mixed situations around you. It is advised to not expect much from anyone around you. It could make you disappointed. Today you may be in a state of self-exploration and analysis, which may allow you to filter yourself. After the filtration process, you may feel confident and be able to accept challenges.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may plan for a change in place. But it is advised to postpone any decisions related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investing in businesses. By late evening, situations may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of your elders, you may control a messy situation.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may expect some short business trips. You may also expect to get some rewards for success in your domain. Your respect around you may be increased. You may hear some good news from siblings. Job seekers who are seeking management jobs may get success. Singles are likely to get engaged.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today is a good day. You are blessed by Jupiter and your wisdom may help you to come out of difficult situations. You may also help needy people. You may give your opinion to your family or friends, which may increase your prestige among them. You may have some differences of opinions with your spouse, which may affect your domestic life.

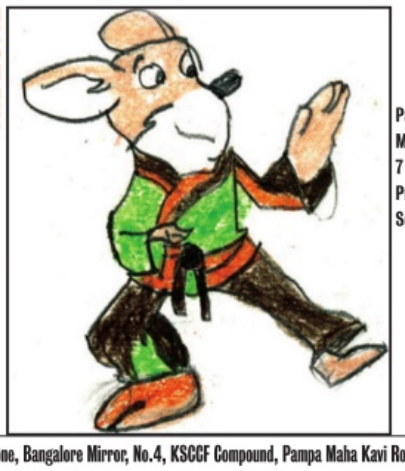
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be a victim of mood swings. You may feel dull as your health is not great. It affects your day-to-day routine. You are advised to rash driving and adventure tours. Today you may also spend money on worthless things, which can affect your financial health.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may face detachment from your given responsibilities. You may spend money on purchasing worthless things, which may increase negativity in your house or office. You are advised to keep an eye on your opponents and rivals, otherwise you may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to read documents carefully before putting your signature on them.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today blessing from elders can make you happy. Your investments may give you profits. Losses will now convert to profits. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest in your kid's future. You may also enjoy some delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ears, or nose may be resolved now.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are blessed by elders. Your patience becomes very good. Your focus towards your work may be very good too. Your parents' health is now alright. You are likely to spend time with your elders. You may also meet some influential person who will help you on the professional front. You may also enjoy romantic moments, which may increase harmony in your domestic life.

KIDZONE



Pault Mathew, 7 Years, Presidency School

Roopa R, 14 Years, Cambridge English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER The new employee told the boss that they know two facts: 1) Crackers are better than nothing, and 2) Nothing is better than donuts if you put two of them together, you get that crackers are better than donuts.

QUOTE UNCODE Words have no power to impress the mind without the exquisite horror of their reality.

SOLVE IN 1M 96/4/4 = 96/16 = 6

FAST FIVE

L	I	S	T	S
U	N	H	O	T
S	N	A	P	E
T	I	B	I	A
S	T	U	C	K

BULL'S EYE poor, pore, rope, spoor, poser, prep, PROPOSE, prose, rose, sore, spore

STRIKE OUT

W	H	I	N	E	D	■	E	G	G	I	N	G	■	■
E	■	■	E	■	E	A	C	H	■	R	■	L	■	■
A	T	T	A	I	N	O	E	D	E	M	A	■	■	■
S	E	■	A	T	A	L	E	■	F	■	D	■	■	■
E	Y	R	E	■	S	E	E	■	F	U	E	L	■	■
L	I	N	E	D	■	O	■	T	A	L	L	Y	■	■
■	E	■	A	I	L	I	N	G	■	D	■	■	■	■
P	L	A	I	D	■	I	■	T	I	B	E	R	■	■
E	D	G	E	■	W	A	N	■	N	O	R	A	■	■
A	■	A	■	F	I	N	A	L	■	A	■	C	■	■
L	O	T	I	O	N	■	S	O	I	R	E	■	E	■
S	N	A	P	E	■	R	■	E	■	■	■	S	■	■
U	N	H	O	T	■	E	R	E	C	A	P	■	D	M
L	I	S	T	S	■	D	U	S	T	E	D	■	L	E

QUICK

G	■	R	■	D	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
S	N	E	■	E	R	■	R	O	■	S	■	■	■	■
I	■	G	■	E	■	N	■	E	■	E	■	■	■	■
L	Y	I	N	G	■	L	O	W	■	K	I	N	G	■
R	■	O	■	B	■	O	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
E	R	E	C	T	■	P	R	O	J	E	C	T	■	■
U	■	■	■	S	■	D	■	■	■	I	■	■	■	■
T	H	E	R	A	P	Y	■	S	T	A	G	E	■	■
E	■	U	■	■	■	I	■	O	■	R	■	■	■	■
V	E	N	I	■	K	A	P	I	L	D	E	V	■	■
Z	■	L	■	C	■	M	■	L	■	L	■	■	■	■
L	O	G	G	I	A	■	A	R	A	B	L	E	■	■
O	■	U	■	B	■	H	■	B	■	A	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE E: looking down, the line is moving 90 degrees anticlockwise and the white circle is moving 45 degrees clockwise. Looking across, the line is moving 45 degrees clockwise and the white circle is moving 90 degrees anticlockwise

SUDOKU

9	2	3	1	8	4	5	7	6
6	4	1	5	7	2	8	9	3
7	8	5	6	3	9	4	1	2
3	1	8	2	6	7	9	5	4
2	9	4	8	1	5	6	3	7
5	7	6	4	9	3	1	2	8
1	3	7	9	4	8	2	6	5
8	5	9	7	2	6	3	4	1
4	6	2	3	5	1	7	8	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE D, Id, Die, Side, Edits, Duties, Dispute.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 3 − 5 + 7 = 10
Medium
2 × 8 + 4 × 2 = 40
Hard
2 + 8 − 9 + 1 = 2

LOOP

KAKURO

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When Valentine's Day was lonely— Actor Rebel Wilson, who is in a relationship with Ramona Agruma, has opened up that she used to send herself gifts during her school years, admitting that it was always a "lonely day" for her

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Entertainment Industry Promotion

She's up for any challenge

Artistes must up the ante with each new character they get to play: Yami

Yami Gautam is playing a crime journalist in the OTT film LOST. It's the first time in her career that Yami is playing a journalist. Speaking about her tryst with a journalist character, Yami reveals, "I don't think I have played a journalist in my life but even if I had, I would have always focused on how it can be different from the existing roles I have essayed."

Yami feels there's more than one way of portraying any character. Talking specifically about portraying professionals as an actor, she says, "In life there might be so many journalists or so many people from different professions. There is so much diversity in professions. We are all different. Acting is a craft which allows you to experience the beauty of these multiple professions. This is why I feel this character is very different from my previous ones."

She has played a visually impaired person, an Indian airforce pilot, a teacher and a cop before. The variety of roles are what excites her the most. Yami says, "Being an actor, exploring multifarious characters is the most challenging and essential experience to evolve and grow as an artiste." On the subject of taking up challenges, Yami says, "One needs to divulge in spaces one is unfamiliar with and learn on the go. You must work with different directors and up your ante with every new character you get a chance to portray." **—ETimes**

Time for action

Action is one genre that Kareena Kapoor Khan has not tried in her over 20-year-old career in Bollywood, but the actor says voicing Black Widow in the Hindi adaptation of 'Marvel Wastelanders' has piqued her interest in it. She hopes directors will explore female action-oriented movies given the interest of many heroines in this space.

"There have been so many actors here doing action-packed roles. Maybe now people will explore female-action oriented (films). But I, personally, haven't done something like that, like a cool assassin or spy, because I am always shying away from action.

Somehow, I don't know if I would be able to do action, but I know I will be good at it. You never know, now I am giving my voice, next maybe, you don't know..." the 42-year-old actor told PTI in an interview here. **—PTI**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

A word of caution

Shreyas Manju, an upcoming actor, has encouraging advice for a group of youngsters from Anekal who made a movie Samharam. Shreyas, the son of Kannada movie producer K Manju alias Kobbari Manju, volunteered to release the trailer of the movie that has Pain, Power and Promise as its tagline. "My advice is that those who enter Sandalwood have to build their career on their own. The problem with people, who have money, is that they may have no brain. The other problem is that those who are intelligent, are deprived of opportunities in Sandalwood. I am not a senior actor but I felt the need to encourage these youngsters who made a very good movie," said Shreyas.

According to Chandan Keshav, a mechanical engineer who debuts as a director, Samharam is a revenge drama. "I learnt direction by watching Kannada movies because I wanted to become a director. My parents allowed me to pursue my passion," said Chandan. He said that police atrocities in Tamil Nadu, Bihar and the USA are the inspiration for him to make this movie. "The movie is about what happens when police harass a family without any valid reason," he said.

A new direction

K Yeshoda Prakash from Kodagu has graduated from being a production in-charge to becoming a director. Yeshoda learnt the nuances of direction by working as a production in-charge for four movies that were directed by her husband.

"I learnt direction by associating with my husband for four movies. My debut Kannada movie is Rangapravesha in which Suman Nagarkar played a key role. It received a U certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification," says Yeshoda with a smile.

Now, the muhurat function was held recently for Yeshoda's second movie as a director. "The movie's title is Kandeelu. The story of the movie is about the lifestyle and problems of farmers in rural areas. I have

agreed to bankroll and direct this movie because of the script written by Nagesh N. We have shortlisted a few villages near Kanakapura to shoot this movie," says Yeshoda.

This movie's special as it has Prabhakar Kunder, who acted in Kantara. Guru Tejas, Vinitha Rajesh, Rohini, Kushikaveramma, Ratna, Harini Vijay, Venkatesh Prasad, are some of the cast of this movie.

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